



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

August 15, 2005

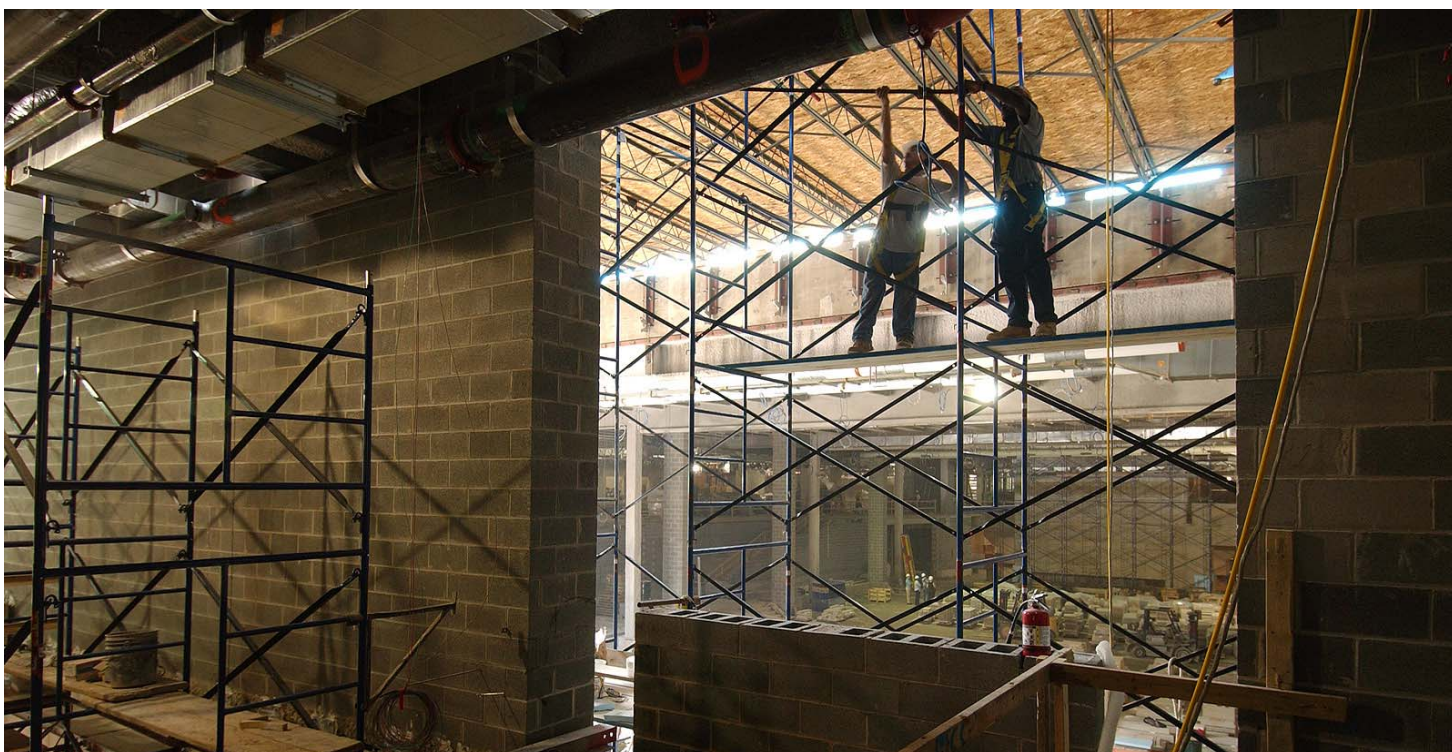


In the middle floor of House Expansion Space, crews install a wire mesh over insulation board prior to placing a concrete topping slab.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 8/15/05 through 8/19/05

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect masonry block work and metal stud walls, place concrete, install finish stone, and apply plaster to interior corridors.
- Interior metal stud framing for the walls and ceiling is substantially complete in the food services areas and framing crews will begin work in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Exterior wall stonework will continue along the pedestrian ramp on the south side of the CVC entrance zone.
- Stone crews will continue installing finish stone to the masonry block walls on the north ends of the Great Hall.
- Stone installation will continue inside the south Orientation Theater and layout has begun in the north Orientation Theater.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center will continue adjacent to the House Steps and House Carriageway. Access will be maintained at all times to the House Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance, the South Door Entrance and the House Steps. Member parking will not be affected.
- Demolition of the Senate Plaza parking lot will continue through the recess. This restriction will clear the way for Capitol Visitor Center construction crews to complete East Plaza activities, including installation of granite pavers and historic elements, and to restore the Senate triangle, a landscaped area that had been removed for the construction of the CVC truck tunnel. On September 6, 2005, following the recess, vehicle access through the Senate Carriageway will become available for Member drop-off. Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times to the North Door Entrance and the Senate Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance.



At the north end of the CVC's Great Hall, workers assemble a scaffold that will be used by stone masons to set sandstone on 30-foot-high concrete masonry block walls. Stone installation is also continuing in both of the 250-seat Orientation Theaters that lie just west of the Great Hall.

East Front Extension

- Crews will continue installation of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems in the lower level of the Capitol.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- First Street continues to be constricted to clear the way for construction of a temporary bridge in this zone. One lane of traffic is being maintained in each direction at all times. The sidewalk along the west side of First Street NE/SE (Capitol side) has been closed for the bridge construction. Access for pedestrians and persons with disabilities is available on the east side of First Street (along the Supreme Court and Library of Congress).
- Pile installation will continue at the east end of the tunnel near its connection to existing utilities at Second Street. Excavation at the east end of the tunnel (near First Street) is nearing completion.

Next Week – 8/22/05 – 8/26/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, place concrete, erect blockwork and metal stud walls, and install finish stone in areas on all three levels of the CVC.
- Exterior wall stone installation will continue along the south side of the CVC entrance zone and stone installation will begin on the steps at the north side of the CVC entrance.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center will continue adjacent to the House Steps and House Carriageway.
- Demolition and restoration activities will continue in the temporary Senate Plaza parking lot.

East Front Extension

- Crews will continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

Construction of a temporary bridge will continue at First Street over the new utility tunnel. Lane constrictions and pedestrian detours along First Street NE/SE will continue for several months. Motorists are urged to proceed with caution and pedestrians should obey all sidewalk detour signs through the work zone.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Communications Officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aac.gov.